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EXAMINER

YANG, RYAN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2672

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/982,270

Applicant(s)

VINBERG, ANDERS

Examiner

Ryan R Yang

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8 and 12-17 are independent claims. This action is non-final
2. This application is a Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/949,101.
This application claims Provisional application No. 60/241,049 filed 10/17/2000, and Provisional application No. 60/241,051 filed 10/17/2000.
3. The present title of the invention is "Method and apparatus for displaying 3-D state indicators".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-2, 4-5, 12, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Johnston et al. (6,404,444).

As per claim 1, Johnston et al., hereinafter Johnston, discloses a method for presenting a status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, comprising:
determining a value of a property associated with an object ("The present invention provides a mechanism to display the total sum of the resource in the system",

column 4, line 28-30, where the resource is a property of the object- data processing system 200);

determining a status indicator associated with the property (Figure 3 is a graph indicating the status of a resource);

generating a status indicator representing the property associated with the object (Figure 3 is a stack of cylindrical graph indicating the status of a resource property);
and

displaying the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 3 where the cylinder represent the amount of resource and 312 represents the unallocated resource).

6. As per claim 2, Johnston demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, *supra*, and further discloses the status indicator has a translucent quality ("cylinder 312, is shown as an open or transparent cylinder", column 5, line 17-18).

7. As per claim 4, Johnston demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, *supra*, and further discloses the status indicator is depicted as a bar (Figure 7, where each attribute is represented by a bar).

8. As per claim 5, Johnston demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of claim 4, *supra*, and further discloses at least one dimension of the bar represents the value of the property (Figure 6A, "hot spot 610 is a vertical line dividing consumed and unconsumed portions of box 604", column 7, line 42-44).

9. As per claim 12, Johnston discloses an apparatus for presenting a status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, comprising:

a processor (Figure 1- 202);

a memory connected to said processor storing a program to control the operation of said processor (Figure 1- 204);

the processor operative with the program in the memory to:

determine a value of a property associated with an object ("The present invention provides a mechanism to display the total sum of the resource in the system", column 4, line 28-30, where the resource is a property of the object- data processing system 200);

determine a status indicator associated with the property (Figure 3 is a graph indicating the status of a resource);

generate a status indicator representing the property associated with the object (Figure 3 is a stack of cylindrical graph indicating the status of a resource property);

and

display the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 3 where the cylinder represent the amount of resource and 312 represents the unallocated resource).

10. As per claim 14, Johnston discloses an apparatus for presenting a status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, comprising:

means for determining a value of a property associated with an object ("The present invention provides a mechanism to display the total sum of the resource in the system", column 4, line 28-30, where the resource is a property of the object- data processing system 200);

means for determining a status indicator associated with the property (Figure 3 is a graph indicating the status of a resource);

means for generating a status indicator representing the property associated with the object (Figure 3 is a stack of cylindrical graph indicating the status of a resource property);

and means for displaying the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 3 where the cylinder represent the amount of resource and 312 represents the unallocated resource).

11. As per claim 16, Johnston discloses a computer-readable storage medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for presenting a status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, the processing instructions for directing a computer to perform the steps of:

determining a value of a property associated with an object ("The present invention provides a mechanism to display the total sum of the resource in the system", column 4, line 28-30, where the resource is a property of the object- data processing system 200);

determining a status indicator associated with the property (Figure 3 is a graph indicating the status of a resource);

generating a status indicator representing the property associated with the object (Figure 3 is a stack of cylindrical graph indicating the status of a resource property);
and

displaying the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 3 where the cylinder represent the amount of resource and 312 represents the unallocated resource).

12. Claims 1, 6-11, 13, 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jamieson et al. (US 6,577,323).

As per claim 1, Jamieson et al., hereinafter Jamieson, discloses a method for presenting a status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, comprising:

determining a value of a property associated with an object ("The trend display 152 is a graphical display for the results of a signal trend analysis algorithm of the data analysis module 72 performed on data from the controller 14 ... The algorithm is capable of visually coding other types of information (e.g., deviation from predicted values, **selection of a variable**, and unanticipated state change) and supports navigation for the graphical user interface 50", column 14, line 16-25);

determining a status indicator associated with the property (Figure 5A, where each component 161-164 is a property of the plant);

generating a status indicator representing the property associated with the object (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the status of selected property); and

displaying the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 5A, where the status indicator is relative to the object).

13. As per claim 6, Jamieson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses the status indicator is depicted as a quantitative indicator (The display 176 in Figure 5A is inherently a quantitative indicator).

14. As per claim 7, Jamieson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses the quantitative indicator is a gauge (Figure 7A, 280 is a gauge).

15. As per claim 8, Jamieson discloses a method for presenting a user selected status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, comprising:

receiving a request to select a property of an object for display ("The algorithm is capable of visually coding other types of information (e.g., deviation from predicted values, **selection of a variable**, and unanticipated state change) and supports navigation for the graphical user interface 50", column 14, line 22-25);

displaying at least one property which may be displayed for the object;
receiving a selection of a property (Figure 5A, where each component 161-164 is a property of the plant);

determining the value of the selected property for the object (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the value of selected element);

generating a status indicator based on the value of the selected property (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the status of selected property); and

displaying the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 5A, where the status indicator is relative to the object).

16. As per claim 9, Jamieson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of claim 8, supra, and further discloses the step of generating includes automatically determining the form of the status indicator ("The scale 282 of the

process variable gauge 280 automatically adjusts to ensure that the data of the gauge is displayed in a meaningful context", column 20, line 41-43).

17. As per claim 10, Jamieson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of claim 8, supra, and further discloses receiving a selection from the user determining the form of the status indicator ("If there is more than one controller available, a pull-down menu button may be used to allow the user to select from a list of other names. Below these items are controller modes 153 and status indication 155. For example, the status indications may include indications such as optimizing, handling constraints, etc. The user can select, such as with use of a pull-down menu, a controller mode 153 such as on, off, warm, etc. The mode may change as a function of the controller condition", column 13, line 29-47

18. As per claim 11, Jamieson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of claim 8, supra, and further discloses the form of the status indicator is a bar graph (Figure 7A is a bar graph).

19. As per claim 13, Jamieson discloses an apparatus for presenting a user selected status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, comprising:

- a processor (Figure 1, the Computer Processing Unit 52);

- a memory connected to said processor storing a program to control the operation of said processor (Figure 1, Memory 54);

- the processor operative with the program in the memory to:

- receive a request to select a property of an object for display ("The trend display 152 is a graphical display for the results of a signal trend analysis algorithm of the data

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analysis module 72 performed on data from the controller 14 ... The algorithm is capable of visually coding other types of information (e.g., deviation from predicted values, **selection of a variable**, and unanticipated state change) and supports navigation for the graphical user interface 50", column 14, line 16-25);

display at least one property which may be displayed for the object (Figure 5A, where each component 161-164 is a property of the plant);

receive a selection of a property (The algorithm is capable of visually coding other types of information (e.g., deviation from predicted values, **selection of a variable**, and unanticipated state change) and supports navigation for the graphical user interface 50", column 14, line 22-25);

determine the value of the selected property for the object (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the value of selected element);

generate a status indicator based on the value of the selected property (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the status of selected property); and

display the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 5A, where the status indicator is relative to the object).

20. As per claim 15, Jamieson discloses an apparatus for presenting a user selected status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, comprising:

means for receiving a request to select a property of an object for display (The algorithm is capable of visually coding other types of information (e.g., deviation from predicted values, **selection of a variable**, and unanticipated state change) and supports navigation for the graphical user interface 50", column 14, line 22-25);

means for displaying at least one property which may be displayed for the object (Figure 5A, where each component 161-164 is a property of the plant);

means for receiving a selection of a property (The algorithm is capable of visually coding other types of information (e.g., deviation from predicted values, **selection of a variable**, and unanticipated state change) and supports navigation for the graphical user interface 50", column 14, line 22-25);

means for determining the value of the selected property for the object (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the value of selected element);

means for generating a status indicator based on the value of the selected property (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the status of selected property); and

means for displaying the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 5A, where the status indicator is relative to the object).

21. As per claim 17, Jamieson discloses a computer-readable storage medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for presenting a user selected status of an object in a three dimensional graphic display, the processing instructions for directing a computer to perform the steps of:

receiving a request to select a property of an object for display (The algorithm is capable of visually coding other types of information (e.g., deviation from predicted values, **selection of a variable**, and unanticipated state change) and supports navigation for the graphical user interface 50", column 14, line 22-25);

displaying at least one property which may be displayed for the object (Figure 5A, where each component 161-164 is a property of the plant);

receiving a selection of a property (The algorithm is capable of visually coding other types of information (e.g., deviation from predicted values, **selection of a variable**, and unanticipated state change) and supports navigation for the graphical user interface 50", column 14, line 22-25);

determining the value of the selected property for the object (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the value of selected element);

generating a status indicator based on the value of the selected property (Figure 5A, the Trend shape element 176 displays the status of selected property); and

displaying the status indicator relative to the object (Figure 5A, where the status indicator is relative to the object).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

22. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnston et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Griffiths et al. (4,937,037).

As per claim 3, Johnston demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra.

Johnston discloses a method of presenting a status of an object. It is noted that Johnston does not explicitly disclose the status indicator has a reflective quality, however, this is known in the art as taught by Griffiths et al., hereinafter Griffiths. Griffiths discloses a method of presenting data in which "in a reflective cell the sttes

represent reflective and non-reflective areas such that incident light falling on the screen is selectively reflected to provide a pattern of light and dark areas which can be visually distinguished by an observed" (column 3, line 36-40).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Griffiths into Johnston because Johnston discloses a method of presenting a status of an object and Griffiths discloses the displayed object can be reflective in order for it to be easily distinguished by an observer.

Conclusion

23. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Inquiries

24. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan R Yang whose telephone number is (703) 308-6133 ((571) 272-7666 after 3/21/2005). The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi can be reached on (703) 305-4713 ((571) 272-7664 after 3/21/2005). The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Ryan Yang
March 11, 2005